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LB 229, 677

particularly child support orders, and other concerns. The bill that I introduced and that is embedded in this amendment causes a one-year delay in that concurrent jurisdiction taking place. There was a delay in the original bill for one year. This would delay it one additional year so that issues, that I've indicated were raised, could be addressed. That time, arguably, is necessary to be careful about those considerations. For one thing, there is an ongoing study by the Nebraska State Bar Association of a proposal to create a single tier of trial courts. Now, for the lawyers in the body that may have some significance, for the rest of you I would suggest that what the proposal is is to remove all distinctions between county court judges and district court judges as they now occur. Whether that will happen or not, I'm not seeking to advise the body. I'm merely advising you that that issue is under consideration by the Nebraska State Bar Association, and that you might, in the next session or some later time, have a recommendation concerning that particular issue. But in the context of having that issue discussed and not having resolved the issues that were raised by the potential for concurrent jurisdiction between the county courts for domestic relations cases, it seemed advisable to me to bring a bill to cause a delay. And I did so. That bill was heard by the Judiciary Committee and has been reported out, even though you wouldn't see it on the worksheet. I'm advised by the Chairman, Senator Brashear, that that amendment or that that bill amended by the committee, as a matter of fact, by one of Senator Beutler's bills, has been reported out, and it should have been read in the list this morning. The amendment...or the other portion of the amendment is a bill introduced by Senator Beutler, LB 677. And I would much prefer, of course, if Senator Beutler prefers to speak to that, that he do so. Now I can tell you that Senator Beutler has had objections to this amendment, and I believe will speak to that, we'll probably have to clear that up. I don't know if that can be done this morning before we will move off to other subjects in the agenda. I'm sorry to cause this delay, but, as you're all aware, we may have some limited opportunities to do things that are necessary. This appeared to be one of those opportunities, whether it will work out or not will be a subject for discussion as we go along this morning. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. While the Legislature is